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Wednesday, 1 October, 2008

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates PRC President

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— On the occasion of 59th Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China which falls on 1 October 2008, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Hu Jintao, President of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Nigeria

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Alhaji Umar Musa Yar' Adua, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which falls on 1 October 2008.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye felicitates Vice-President of PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— On the occasion of 59th Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China which falls on 1 October 2008, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, Vice-President of the People's Republic of China.—MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Prime Minister attends opening ceremony of Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara)

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—A ceremony to open the Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara) of Automobile and Diesel Engines Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2, built in Thagara Industrial Region, Yedashe Township, Taungoo District, Bago Division was held at the factory this morning. (See page 8)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits Bulldozer and Excavator Factory in Thagara, Yedashe Township. — MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Chinese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— On the occasion of 59th Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China which falls on 1 October 2008, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.—MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 1 October, 2008

Expedite undertakings for regional development

The government pays serious attention to equitable development of all parts of the Union in pursuance of the goal of building up a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

In order to achieve the lofty goal, it is building more and more economic, social, health and education infrastructures.

Myanmar being an agro-based country, the agricultural sector is its major economy. The government utilizes advanced technologies to exploit water and land resources at full stretch to boost agricultural production, and to scale up cultivation capacity. It has constructed a large number of dams, reservoirs and sluice gates throughout the country, thus growing paddy and other crops and conducting mixed-cropping and multiple-cropping patterns on a wider scale.

In the meantime, the government is implementing long- and short-term health plans to provide better health care to the people. In the process, it is opening more universities of medicine and universities on health to produce human resources as well as building specialist hospitals, hospitals and health care centres on an extensive scale.

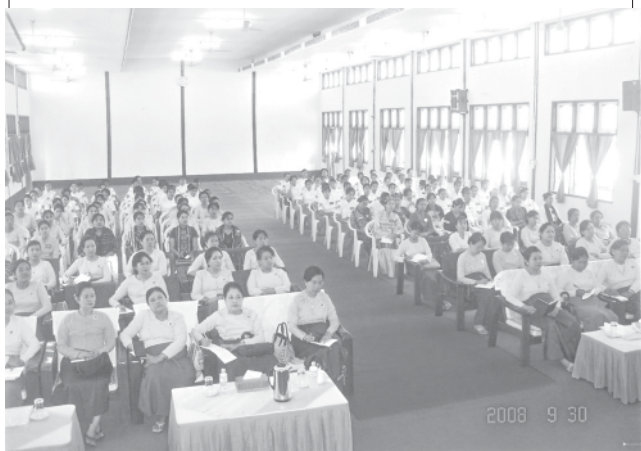
Besides, the government nurtures the youth for development of human resources in its bid to enhance the technological development of the Myanmar society. It has built many more educational institutions and education foundations including electronic communication networks across the nation to provide better opportunities for the youth to pursue education.

Secure and smooth transport is a fundamental requirement for national development. Only through smooth transport will it be possible for social and economic growth. With this concept, the government is building roads and railroads the length and breadth of the Union. So far, it has built 236 bridges, 180 feet and above long.

Therefore, the people have to join hands with the government in regional development tasks for sooner emergence of a peaceful, modern and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Daw L Khun Yi of MAAF gives talks on "Sports and Myanmar Women".

NLM



People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Foreign Affairs Minister sends message of felicitations to Chinese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— On the occasion of 59th Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People's Republic of China which falls on 1 October 2008, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

MNA

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win sends message of felicitations to Nigerian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct— On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which falls on 1 October 2008, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Chief Ojo Maduekwe, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.—MNA

Energy Minister inspects Ayadaw oil field

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept— Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi visited Ayadaw Oil Field in Pakokku Township on 28 September and inspected tasks for conducting seismic data for drilling new oil wells in the field.

During the tour of inspection, geologists and the managing director of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise reported to the minister on seismic data for drilling new wells.

The minister called for more efforts for collecting necessary data to drill oil wells and laid down future plans.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects use of seismic machine in Ayadaw Oil Field in Ayadaw Township. — ENERGY

measures being taken for conducting seismic data with the use of Secret SN 428 Telemetric System. Next, the minister visited the oil field and gave instruction on supply of oil and natural gas.

MNA

MWAF Working Group on National Races Affairs holds educative talk

YANGON, 30 Sept— An educative talk sponsored by the Working Group on National Races Affairs of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation took place at the central training school of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Dagon Myothit (North) Township here this morning.

Present on the occasion were officials of MWAF,

trainees of advanced domestic training course No. 19 and cottage industry training course No. 6 of the central training schools, those from Nationalities Youths Resources Development Degree College and staff families of the central training school.

Leader of the Working Group Daw Kyin Khine made an opening speech on the occasion.

Next, Secretary of the Working Group Daw L Khun Yi gave a talk titled "Sports and Myanmar Women".

After the talk, officials of MWAF looked into sewing of trainees of advanced domestic training course and learning of trainees in specializing in cane and bamboo subjects.—MNA

Earthquake Report

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept— A strong earthquake of intensity (7.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (4300) miles Southeast of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (21)hrs (49) min (31) sec MST yesterday.—MNA

Russia says US blocking nuclear arms reduction talks



Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev (C) and Defence Minister Anatoly Serdyukov (L) visit a missile base in Teikovo in Ivanovo region.

INTERNET

UNITED NATIONS, 30 Sept—Russia accused the United States on Monday of stonewalling negotiations on a new pact on reducing the size of the two powers' nuclear arsenals, the latest sign of deteriorating Russian-US

relations. "Negotiations between us and Washington to make sure that after START I treaty expires in December 2009 we have some meaningful strategic arms control regime, these negotiations are not so far heading anywhere," said

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START I, between the United States and Soviet Union was signed in 1991 and eventually resulted in an estimated reduction of around 80 percent of all nuclear weapons in existence at the time. Speaking on the sidelines of the annual open debate of the UN General Assembly, which ends later on Monday, Lavrov said the reason the talks had stalled was that "our American colleagues do not want to keep limits on the delivery vehicles (missile) and on nuclear warheads in storage."

Internet

3 pirates may be dead in shootout

MOGADISHU, 30 Sept—Disagreements between Somali pirates holding a ship laden with tanks and heavy weapons escalated into a shootout and three pirates are believed dead, a US defence official said Tuesday. The pirates denied the report.

The US destroyer *USS Howard* and several other American ships have surrounded the Ukrainian cargo ship *Faina*, which was hijacked Thursday and is now anchored off the lawless coast of Somalia. The pirates have demanded a ransom of \$20 million and the US Navy cordon aims to prevent them from taking any of the weapons ashore.

Piracy has become a lucrative criminal racket in impoverished Somalia,

bringing in tens of millions of dollars a year in ransom. There have been 24 reported attacks in Somalia this year, according to the International Maritime Bureau.

Most pirate attacks occur in the Gulf of Aden, one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, to the north of Somalia. But recently pirates have been targeting Indian Ocean waters off eastern Somalia.

In all, 62 ships have been attacked in the notorious African waters this year. A total of 26 ships were hijacked, and 12 remain in the hands of the pirates along with more than 200 crew members.

International warships are patrolling the area and have created a special security corridor under a US-led initiative, but attacks have not abated.—Internet



Somali pirates in small boats hijacking the MV *Faina* last week.—INTERNET

At least 168 killed in Indian temple stampede

JODHPUR, 30 Sept—Thousands of pilgrims panicked by false rumours of a bomb stampeded at a Hindu temple in western India on Tuesday, killing at least 168 people in the crush to escape, officials said.

More than 12,000 people gathered at the temple at dawn to celebrate a Hindu festival in the historic city of Jodhpur when the stampede occurred early Tuesday morning.

The temple floors were slick with coconut milk as thousands of devotees broke coconuts as religious offerings, causing pilgrims to slip



and fall as they scrambled to escape.

At least 168 people were killed in the stampede, said Naresh Pal Gangwar, the district collector.

Jodhpur is some 180 miles (290 kilometres) southwest of the Rajasthan state capital of Jaipur.

Internet

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,175

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept—As of Monday, 29 Sept, 2008, at least 4,175 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,379 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.—Internet

2 bombs kill at least 6 in western India

MUMBAI, 30 Sept—Two bombs exploded in separate towns in western India in crowded markets packed with shoppers, killing six people and wounding 45 others, police said Tuesday. An 8-year-old girl was among five people killed and 30 injured late Monday in an explosion in a popular market in Malegaon town, nearly 180 miles northeast of Mumbai, India's financial hub, police said.

Separately on Monday, a small bomb exploded at a market in Modasa town in Gujarat state killing one person and wounding 15, police said.—Internet

Car bomb strikes Baghdad restaurant

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept — A car bomb detonated Tuesday near a crowded restaurant at lunchtime in central Baghdad, killing at least three civilians and wounding eight others, an Interior Ministry official said.

The bombing struck the Karrada district. On Sunday, a car and suicide bombing in the same district killed and wounded scores of Iraqis.

Also in Iraq, reports that a roadside bomb wounded the mayor of Samarra on Monday turned out to be inaccurate.

The mayor appeared to be in good shape and said it was a relative who was wounded in the bombing.

Also on Tuesday, a US soldier died after his unit came under small arms fire in northern Baghdad, the US military said.

This month, 25 US service members have died in Iraq, and 4,175 have died since the Iraq war began.

Internet

British soldier kills Afghan civilian

LONDON, 30 Sept—A British soldier shot dead an Afghan civilian on a motorbike Monday who failed to stop as he approached a military patrol in southern Afghanistan, the Defence Ministry here said.

A spokesman said the man "failed to react to two verbal warnings and two warning shots" as he approached troops from the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Helmand province.

After the man was shot, he was treated by medics at the scene but "unfortunately he did not survive", the spokesman said.

Internet

Three US-led soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 Sept—Three soldiers from a US-led coalition force in Afghanistan have been killed in a blast in the south of the country, the US military said on Tuesday. Violence has surged in Afghanistan this year with about 3,000 people, at least 1,000 of them civilians, killed in the bloodiest year since US-led and Afghan forces overthrew the Taliban in 2001.

This summer has also been the deadliest period for foreign troops in the country, with the militants launching more daring and deadly attacks. "Three coalition service members were killed on 29 September in southern Afghanistan when their vehicle struck an IED," the US military said in a statement, referring to an improvised explosive device, or roadside bomb.—Internet

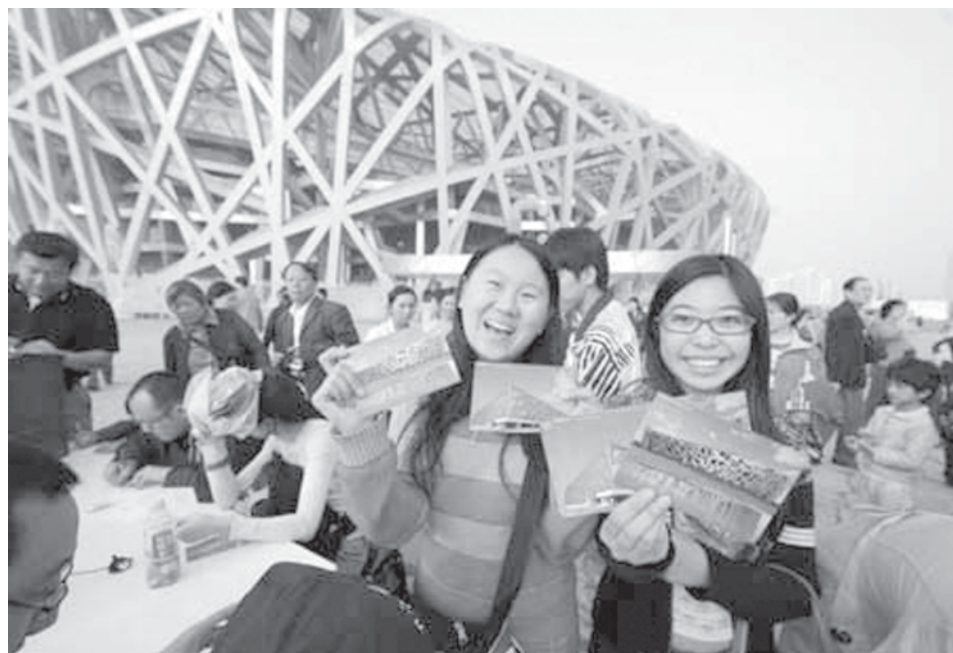
Afghan policeman opens fire on US troops, kills one

KABUL, 30 Sept—An Afghan policeman opened fire on US troops at a police station, killing an American soldier and wounding three, officials said Monday.

An American commander said US forces in the station in eastern Afghanistan then killed the policeman.

"Initial reports suggest that a rogue ANP (Afghan police) official turned on our forces and shot and killed one of our soldiers, said Col John "Pete" Johnson, the commander of Task Force Currahee in eastern Afghanistan.

Internet



Tourists send postcards at a temporary post office outside the National Stadium, or the Bird's Nest, at the Olympic Green in Beijing, capital of China, on 29 Sept, 2008. —XINHUA

China finds 14,000-km underground rivers in rock desert areas

BEIJING, 30 Sept— A newly conducted geological survey has found more than 3,000 underground rivers with a total length of 14,000 kilometres in southwest China's rock desert areas.

A latest report released by the China Geological Survey showed that these underground rivers collect water from a combined area of 300,000 square kilometres, with an annual runoff of 47 billion cubic metres, equivalent

to that of the Yellow River, the country's second longest river.

These underground rivers account for 70 percent of the total underground water in the rock desert areas, which is a valuable resource for future development, the report said.

China's rock deserts are mainly in the karst erosion areas in southwestern provinces of

Guizhou and Yunnan and the southern Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. In these areas, surface water easily leaks through the carbonate terrane, leaving the land dry and leading to rock desertification.

The report suggested the government adopt more effective ways to stop the expanding of rock desert areas.

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Boat carrying over 100 people sinks offshore Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Sept— A boat carrying more than 100 people sank off the coast of a port near Kuala Lumpur early Tuesday morning and at least six people were killed, local media reported.

The vessel, believed to be a barter trade boat, sank off the coast near Klang, a sea port southwest of the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur, the website of English-language newspaper *The Star* said.

Rescuers had so far pulled out 107 survivors and six bodies, and were trying to ascertain the actual number of passengers and crewmen on board before the mishap, it said.

Xinhua

50 missing, 100 injured in ferry collision in S Bangladesh

DHAKA, 30 Sept— Some fifty people were missing and about 100 others injured as two ferries collided in a river in southern Bangladesh early Tuesday, private TV channel Channel i reported.

The accident took place at 3 am in Bangladesh's southern Patuakhali district, about 204 km south of the capital Dhaka, on Tuesday, the report said.

Passengers on board were heading for their hometown to be with their families ahead of the largest Muslim festival Eid-ul-Fitr that falls on 1 or 2 Oct depending on the sight of the new moon.

Xinhua



Acrobats perform stunts during a soiree at the Ningxia People's Hall in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 28 Sept, 2008. —XINHUA

2nd hijacked Malaysian tanker released

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Sept — The second Malaysian oil tanker and the crew hijacked in the Gulf of Aden by Somali pirates were released on Monday, local media reported.

MT Bunga Melati Dua, which belongs to the Malaysian International Shipping Corporation (MISC), was released on

early Monday morning, Malaysia's national news agency *Bernama* said.

The ship was heading towards Djibouti with all the crew in good health except for a Filipino sailor who was killed by a stray bullet when the ship was taken hostage on 19 Aug, *Bernama* quoted Malaysian Defence Ministry spokesperson Fadzlette

Othman Merican as saying.

Two days ago, another MISC tanker *MT Bunga Melati Lima* and 41 crew that was hijacked in the same region by Somali pirates, was already released.

Fadzlette said that MISC paid a ransom of 2 million US dollars for each vessel. —Xinhua

Hungarian cosmonaut praised Shenzhou-7 mission

BUDAPEST, 30 Sept — Hungarian cosmonaut Bertalan Farkas said on Monday that China's manned *Shenzhou-7* mission was wonderful.

Farkas told *Xinhua* in an interview that when first Chinese astronaut was launched into space, he was in Japan, and only several years later, three Chinese astronauts were sent into space in a spacecraft.

"A spacewalk was performed successfully, this is tremendous, and a very big step forward," Farkas said. This needed technical preparation and harmonization of scientists, he added.

Xinhua

Polls show Obama wins 1st debate with McCain



Republican presidential nominee Senator John McCain (L) and Democratic presidential nominee Senator Barack Obama stand together onstage after the first US presidential debate in Oxford, Mississippi, on 26 Sept, 2008. XINHUA

WASHINGTON, 30 Sept — New polls show a small boost for US Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama after his first debate with Republican foe John McCain last Friday, the US News and World Report said Monday.

Obama's poll numbers have ticked up nationally since the debate, the first of three presidential debates scheduled this year, according to it.

The Gallup daily presidential tracking poll taken 25-27 Sept shows the senator from Illinois lead-

ing McCain 50 to 42 percent as the Rasmussen poll for 28 Sept says Obama leading McCain 50 to 44 percent.

The *Los Angeles Times* also said the debate appears to have helped Obama slightly widen a lead over his Republican opponent as a post-debate *Los Angeles Times*/Bloomberg survey shows.

Registered voters who watched the debate preferred Obama, 49 to 44 percent, according to the poll taken over three days after the showdown in Oxford, Miss. —Xinhua



People select goods at the flea market in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 29 Sept, 2008. A three-day-long flea market was opened Monday in the city. —XINHUA

Crude oil tumbles \$10 on lower demand outlook

NEW YORK, 30 Sept—Oil prices plunged more than 10 US dollars Monday as the veto of the bailout plan exacerbated worries that economic downturn would further cut oil demand.

Light, sweet crude for November delivery slid 10.52 dollars to settle at 96.37 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Futures fell as low as 95.04 dollars a barrel earlier.

The US Congress rejected the 700-billion-dol-

lar financial rescue plan Monday afternoon, which sent the Dow Jones tumbling 705 points shortly after the break of the news.

However, many analysts believed that no matter which way the Congress voted on the plan, oil prices will go down because the severe economic downturn in the United States and worldwide will further cut energy demand from both consumers and businesses.

Meanwhile, a rising dollar also contributed to the falling of the oil prices. It was actually the euro losing ground against the dollar as the economy outlook remained gloomy in the euro zone with more banks got into trouble.

In London, Brent crude for November delivery fell 9.86 dollars to 93.68 dollars a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange.—*Internet*

Cadbury says Chinese-made chocolate have melamine

HONG KONG, 30 Sept—A Cadbury spokesman says preliminary results show its Chinese-made chocolates contain the industrial chemical melamine.

The spokesman said Monday it was too early to say how much melamine the chocolates contained. He declined to give his name because of company policy.

Internet

United Nations Secretary-General's Message on the International Day of Older Persons

(1 October 2008)

The theme of this year's International Day of Older Persons, "Rights of Older Persons", is especially apt in this year in which we mark the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Promoting the independence, participation and dignity of older persons has long been on the agenda of the United Nations and is central to implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. In adopting that Plan six years ago at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, United Nations Member States committed "to eliminating all forms of discrimination, including age discrimination". They recognized "that persons, as they age, should enjoy a life of fulfilment, health, security and active participation in the economic, social, cultural and political life of their societies". And they determined "to enhance the recognition of the dignity of older persons and to eliminate all forms of neglect, abuse and violence".

Despite this commitment, in many parts of the world, the rights of older persons are violated every day. Older persons often face age discrimination at a workplace. In social environments, they may experience a lack of recognition and respect. They may be deprived of full inclusion and participation in social, economic, cultural and political affairs. Most disturbingly, in many countries, incidences of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons are not at all rare or isolated events.

Acknowledging the crucial role that older persons play in society is an important pillar of the Madrid Plan of Action. Earlier this year, the first review and appraisal of the Plan made abundantly clear that much more needs to be done at the national level to support older persons, promote their income security and social protection, and ensure quality health care, as well as the provision of long-term care services. To make this possible, national ageing-specific policies must be improved substantially, and the concerns of older persons mainstreamed into a wider policy framework.

This International Day is an opportunity to stimulate discussion on promoting the rights of older persons and strengthen partnerships aimed at securing their full participation in society. Let us all redouble our efforts to realize the rights of older persons, and make the dream of a society for all ages a reality.—*UNIC*

Dinosaur predator breathed like a modern bird



Flesh rendering of the 85-million-year-old predator dinosaur Aerosteon ricoloradensis, meaning 'air bones from the Rio Colorado,' discovered in Mendoza Province, Argentina.

INTERNET

CHICAGO, 30 Sept—Scientists have unearthed the remains of a large meat-eating dinosaur with a breathing apparatus much like a modern bird, fortifying the link between birds and dinosaurs and helping to explain the evolution of birds' unique system of breathing.

Pulled from 85-million-year-old rock along the banks of Rio Colorado in Argentina's Mendoza Province, this 33-foot-long (10 metre), two-legged predator weighed as much as an elephant and likely had feathers, the scientists said.

But its method of breathing makes this dinosaur stand out, said Paul Sereno of the University of Chicago, who wrote about the find on Monday in the journal *PLoS ONE*.

Instead of lungs that expand and contract, Sereno thinks this beast had air sacs that worked like a bellows, blowing air into the beast's stiff lungs, much like modern birds.

Internet



Image of prehistoric rock paintings, which have sustained some damage at Ain Dua in the desert at Gilf al-Kabir. Sudanese forces have surrounded bandits and their 19 captives - including European tourists — snatched in the Egyptian desert five days ago, but Khartoum says its forces have "no intention of storming the area".

INTERNET

Sahara hostages freed unharmed, some gunmen killed

CAIRO, 30 Sept—Eleven European tourists and eight Egyptians abducted in the Egyptian desert have been freed unharmed in an operation in which some of their kidnappers were killed, Egyptian officials said on Monday.

The freed hostages arrived in Cairo aboard an Egyptian military plane, smiling, some holding bouquets of flowers, to be greeted by Egyptian military and government officials and foreign diplomats.

The 19 were freed in what Egyptian media called a "rescue and recovery operation," although officials gave scant and contradictory details about how authori-

ties secured the release or how the hostage-takers were killed.

The hostages' 10-day ordeal had embarrassed Egypt which depends on tourism for 6 percent of its gross domestic product.

"They have all arrived safely. No ransom was paid from any of the hostage countries," Tourism Minister Zoheir Garrana told reporters.

Masked gunmen seized the five Germans, five Italians, one Romanian and eight Egyptians on 19 September from a desert safari near Egypt's borders with Sudan and Libya, then whisked them into Sudan and demanded a multi-million-dollar ransom.

Internet



Foreign and Egyptian tourists walk out of an Egyptian military plane at a military airport near Cairo on 29 Sept, 2008. Eleven European tourists and eight Egyptians kidnapped from a remote border area of Egypt have been freed and half of the hostage-takers killed, Egyptian media said.

INTERNET

Sri Lanka Navy sink rebel boats, kill eight

COLOMBO, 30 Sept—A Sri Lanka Navy patrol destroyed two Tamil Tiger boats, killing eight rebels on board, in a clash at sea off the island's northern Pooneryn region, the Defence Ministry said Tuesday.

The Navy did not give its own losses during the battle, which occurred late Monday.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), who have been fighting for an independent homeland since 1972, did not

comment.

The attack came as ground troops push deeper into the guerillas' political capital of Kilinochchi, where the LTTE run their own police, courts and banks and meet visiting foreign dignitaries. Monday's clash raised the number of rebels reported killed by government forces to 7,021 since January, when Colombo pulled out of a Norwegian-brokered ceasefire.—*Internet*

Five trapped Filipino miners rescued after 1 week

MANILA, 30 Sept — Five gold miners have been rescued after being trapped for a week in a flooded underground tunnel in the mountainous northern Philippines, officials said Tuesday.

Divers were working to extricate another survivor from an inundated mine shaft and hoped to find eight other missing miners. The bodies of two miners were retrieved from the gold mine in the mountain township of Itogon on Thursday.

Rescuers and relatives applauded as the survivors were brought out of tunnels on stretchers, extremely hungry but in apparent good health, said Mines and Geosciences Bureau officer George Baywong, who supervised the rescue.

“This is some sort of a miracle,” Neoman de la Cruz, another Mines and Geosciences Bureau officer, told The Associated Press by telephone. “Our hardships have been compensated and we won’t give up our search for more survivors. The first two miners rescued Monday managed to survive by standing on a ledge in one of the tunnels about 400-700



Rescuers attend to Jose Panio Jr, 22, a miner who was trapped with 14 others following a landslide at a gold mining township of Itogon, Benguet Province in northern Philippines a week ago.—INTERNET

feet below ground where there was enough oxygen to keep them alive.

They drank the water that flooded the tunnel but had nothing else, Baywong said.—Internet

Russia to help Venezuela build nuclear reactor

CARACAS, 30 Sept — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez expressed readiness Sunday to accept Russia’s offer to help develop his country’s nuclear energy programme for peaceful purposes.

The remark was made at a local electoral assembly. He said Venezuela is to accept Prime Minister Vladimir Putin’s offer last week to help build a nuclear reactor. The two countries have set up a special committee to work out a detailed cooperative plan, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



Solar pannels near Maradi. It is poor, dry and has more sunshine than it knows what to do with. But despite years of experience with solar power, Niger continues to use cow dung and wood for fuel.—INTERNET

Four dead as UN chopper fired upon over Darfur

KHARTOUM, 30 Sept — A helicopter contracted to UN-led peacekeepers crashed in Sudan’s Darfur region on Monday, killing all four crew members, after being fired at, the Sudanese police said.

The helicopter was contracted by the joint African Union-United Nations peacekeeping mission in Darfur (UNAMID) to carry food to a force team site in South Darfur state and came under fire near Kalma camp, a police official said. “A helicopter hired by UNAMID was shot at from Kalma camp,” Major-General Hashim Osman, the assistant director-general for security and criminal investigations, said.

“The three Russian and one Sudanese crew members were all killed,” he added.

The helicopter crashed close to Kalma camp, a sprawling hut-city for internally displaced people, shortly after taking off from Nyala airport laden with two tonnes of supplies, the state capital of South Darfur.—Internet

Nintendo pushing “play” on new DS console

TOKYO, 30 Sept— Nintendo plans to release a new model of its portable DS gaming console with a camera, music player and high-speed WiFi capabilities by the end of 2008.

The new model would

go on sale for less than 20,000 yen (\$185), Japan’s leading business newspaper, The Nikkei, said Sunday. Nintendo spokesperson Yasuhiro Minagawa said that the Kyoto-based company is “always trying

to surprise people and expand the gaming market, but would not confirm details about any new model.

Although the DS already is the best-selling portable console ever — with 80 million units

worldwide — and looks likely to beat the 100 million-unit console record set by Sony’s PlayStation 2, the DS has, in the past six months, been outsold by the PlayStation Portable in Japan.—Internet



‘The Scream’ SeenThe Edward Munch masterpiece “The Scream,” seen in the foreground, which was stolen by masked gunmen in a daylight raid on the Oslo-based Munch Museum in August 2004, and recovered by the police is displayed for the Press, a day before the museum exhibits the painting for the public.



An Afghan man and a National Army soldier pass by an ISAF soldier with the German Federal Armed Forces (Bundeswehr) inspecting an abandoned Russian military helicopter outside Kunduz, northern Afghanistan.

NM ristra stringers say to Guinness HQ: it’s hot!

Men, women and children of all ages stepped right up and twirled together twine and chile pods at the New Mexico State Fair, trying to create the world’s largest chile ristra. Now they hope Londoners appreciate the chiles as much as they do.

In five hours and 45 minutes Sunday, the participants used a whopping 3,250 pounds of red chile pods to create a ristra spanning 157.7 feet, said New Mexico Department of Agriculture spokesman Doug Rains.

The New Mexico Chile Commission and the Agricultural Department followed Guinness World Record guidelines in creating the ristra and will submit their documentation to Guinness headquarters in London for record consideration. Rains said he did not know how long it would take for Guinness to respond.

Men charged with stealing 82-year-old church bell

Two northwest Iowa men have been arrested and charged with stealing an 82-year-old bronze bell from a church. Authorities say the men stole the bell from the Oakdale Evangelical Free Church in Meriden on Sunday night.

The bell was sold at a salvage yard in Lakefield, Minn and was recovered by authorities. It will be returned to the church.

Rover, call me an ambulance— dog calls 911

“Man’s best friend” doesn’t go far enough for Buddy — a German shepherd who remembered his training and saved his owner’s life by calling 911 when the man had a seizure.

And it’s not the first time Buddy has been there for owner Joe Stalnaker, a police officer said Sunday.

On a recording of the 911 call Wednesday, Buddy is heard whimpering and barking after the dispatcher answers and repeatedly asks if the caller needs help.

“Hello, this is 911. Hello ... Can you hear me? Is there somebody there you can give the phone to,” says the dispatcher, Chris Scott.

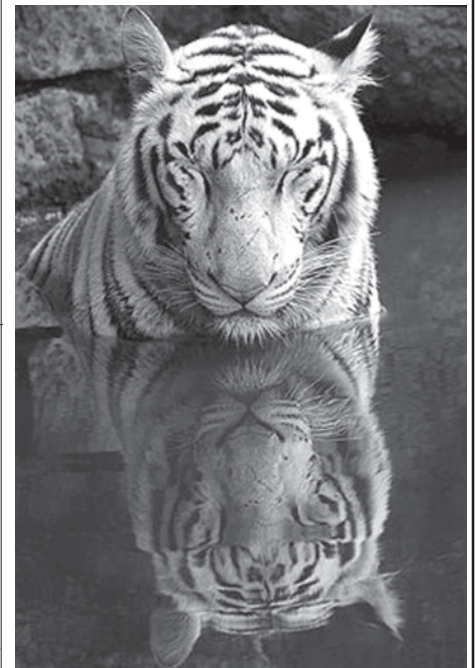
Police were sent to Stalnaker’s home, and after about three minutes Buddy is heard barking loudly when the officers arrived.

Woman mistakes skunk for a cat, gets sprayed

A Pennsylvania woman who thought she was petting a neighbour’s cat got a smelly surprise when it turned out to be a skunk.

Not only did the skunk spray the woman before dawn Monday, but it ran into her Mount Carmel home.

Police spent hours at the home before leaving the scene, but there was no immediate word if they were able to remove the animal.



A white tiger relaxes in water at the zoo in Hyderabad, India.

NEWSALBUM

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing looks into regional development tasks in Shan State (East)

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept— Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence yesterday morning inspected Wan Paing physic nut plantations in Kengtung and crushing of physic nut at the physic nut mill of the Triangle Region Command, demonstration on running of power tillers and thrashers with the use of bio-diesel extracted from physic nut and sample of physic nut strains and gave necessary instructions.

Accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Phyoo and departmental officials, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing looked into thriving paddy fields along Kengtung-Loimwe motor road and the conditions of road section.

At the Nationalities Youths Development

Training School under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in Loimwe, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing presented school uniforms, stationery, exercise books, sports gear and cash assistance and viewed round

Loimwe and presented gifts to warded patients and medicines and medical equipment for the hospital.

At the meeting hall of the Triangle Region Command, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met with secretaries, executives and members of State/



Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing views demonstration of power-tillers in Kengtung.

MNA

the training school.

Next, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing visited People's Hospital in

District/Township USDAs and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

NLD members from states and divisions resign in succession

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—U Aung Soe, U Myo Oo, U Thant Zaw and Daw Win Myaing from Ngapal village, who are members of Myaung Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division, on 30 March, resigned from the party of their own volition and U Soe Naing Oo of Toepin village on 4 April, Daw Than Sein, U Soe Myint, U Soe Htay, Daw Htay Kyi, Daw Oo, Daw San Kyi and Daw Aye Ngwe from Phonekaung village on 8 May and U Myint Swe of Taungmyo village of Sagaing Township on 15 May.

Similarly, U Khin Maung Soe (a) Dhatha, Daw Aye Aye Khine, U Maung Maung Oo, U Maung Maung Htwe, U Win Aung, U Tin Moe Aung, U Nyo Min Tun,

Daw Khin Than Aye, U Khin Maung Than and U Myo Myint from Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay resigned from the party of their own wishes on 9 June and NLD youth in-charge U Zaw Lin of Mandalay (South-West) Township on 12 August, Ma Cho and Hsan Aung Win (a) Hmatkyi of Dagon Myothit (South) Township on 20 August, NLD organizer U Aung Than Myint of Myawady Township of Kayin State on 28 August, Vice-President U Khin Maung Kyi of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township NLD on 29 August and Secretary U Hla Kyu of Chauk Township NLD of Mandalay Division on 8 September.

Likewise, U Than Zin Win of Namhsan of Shan State (South) re-

signed from the party of his own desire on 8 September and U Hmat of Taunggyi Township on 10 September and U Maung Aye of Chaungzone Township of Mon State on 13 September.

The above 32 NLD members resigned in succession from the party of their own volition because they had no wish to carry out party duties any longer and then sent their resignation letters to NLD Headquarter and authorities concerned.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with an aged woman during a ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Persons in Loikaw.—MNA

Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

1. Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
2. Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
3. Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic
4. Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character



Special bus line for Kayah State launched

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept – CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung together with Kayah State Peace and Development Council Chairman Brig-Gen Win Myint on 26 September attended the launching of Thein Than Gaday Loikaw-Mandalay Special Bus Services held at the bus terminal in Loikaw.

The CEC member, the chairman and officials opened the bus line and viewed running of buses.

The special bus line will operate Loikaw-Mandalay bus services with

six air-conditioned buses daily.

At the ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Persons held at Dhammayon in Loikaw, the CEC member and the chairman viewed giving medical treatment to the aged by specialists and presented glasses to the aged.

Next, the CEC member and party met with the secretaries, executives and organizers of State/District/Township USDAs at the office of Kayah State USDA in Loikaw.

On 27 September, the CEC member delivered an address at the an-

nual general meeting of Kayah State USDA and presented awards.

Next, the CEC member and the chairman met with local people at Tatapalu village in Loikaw Township and the CEC member, the chairman and a wellwisher presented K 900,000 for the availability of electricity in the village.

Next, the CEC member and the chairman visited Kontha Taung Mok Parahita School and viewed learning of school children at the school.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected Loikaw rafting station. —MNA





Prime Minister General Thein Sein unveils signboard of Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara). — MNA

Prime Minister attends opening ceremony of...

(from page 1)

Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the ceremony and formally unveiled the signboard and stone inscription of the factory.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of

Defence, Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min, ministers, the Auditor-General, deputy ministers, the Director-General of the Government Office, departmental heads, departmental officials, the factory manager and staff, members of the Union Solidarity and

Development Associations and social organizations, guests and others.

Chaiman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min and Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein formally opened the factory.

Next, the Prime

Minister General Thein Sein unveiled the signboard and sprinkled the signboard with scented water.

After that, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Minister for Rail

Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min sprinkled scented water on the signboard of the factory.

Later, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to the metal forming workshop and inspected the site for raw materials and items produced by machines of the workshop.

Afterwards, the

Prime Minister and party were conducted round by Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and party. They looked into iron wares related to bulldozer and excavator at the welding workshop, welding work, functions of machine process workshop, and gave necessary instructions.

(See page 9)

The bulldozer and excavator factory (Thagara) will manufacture 100 SD 22-M bulldozers with 220 horsepower engine and 200 SC 220.7M excavators with 169 horsepower engine annually.

Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min and Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein formally open Bulldozer and Excavator Factory in Thagara.

MNA

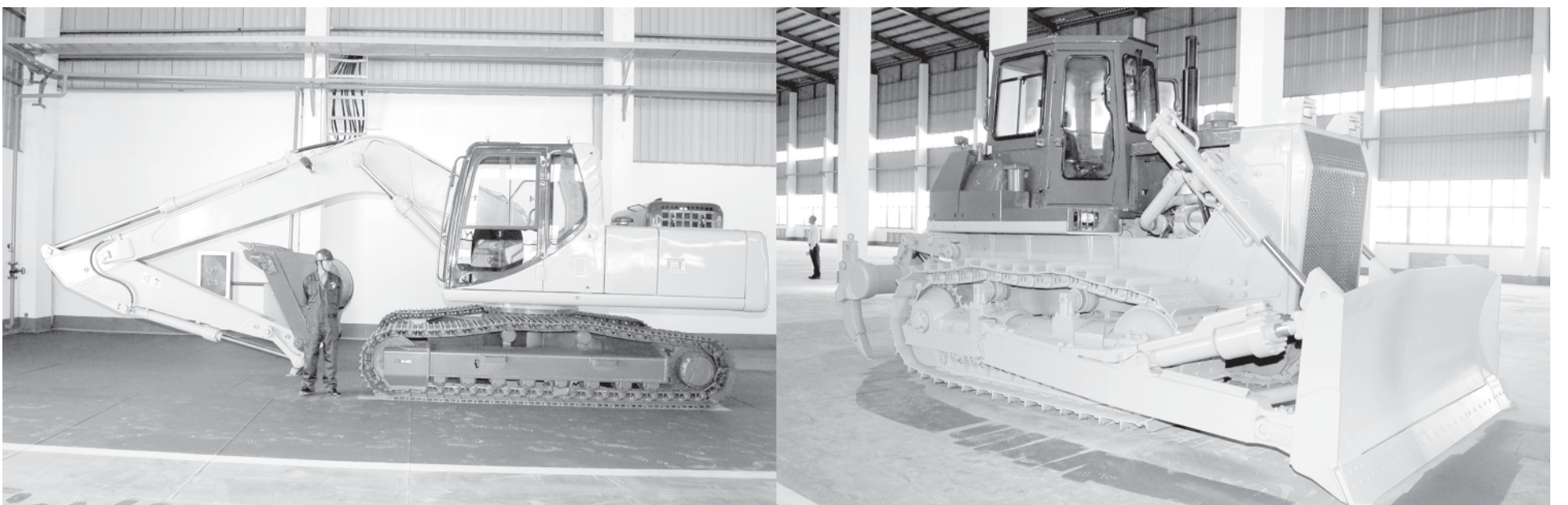


Photo shows heavy machinery manufactured by Bulldozer and Excavator Factory in Thagara. — MNA

Prime Minister attends opening ceremony of...

(from page 8)

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspected the paintwork and gauging the standard of boom at the machine process work.

At the assembly workshop, the minister and officials reported on manufacturing of bulldozers and excavators and their horsepower, their spare parts, assembly of the machinery. They observed the assembled excavator.

The Prime Minister and party inspected paintwork of bulldozers and excavators with the use of modern equipment at the painting workshop.

The Prime Minister also inspected bulldozers and excavators and gave instructions.

Next, officials concerned reported on multi-purpose diesel engine plant, hydro-power turbine and generator and industrial training school project including bulldozer and excavator factory with audio-visual aids.

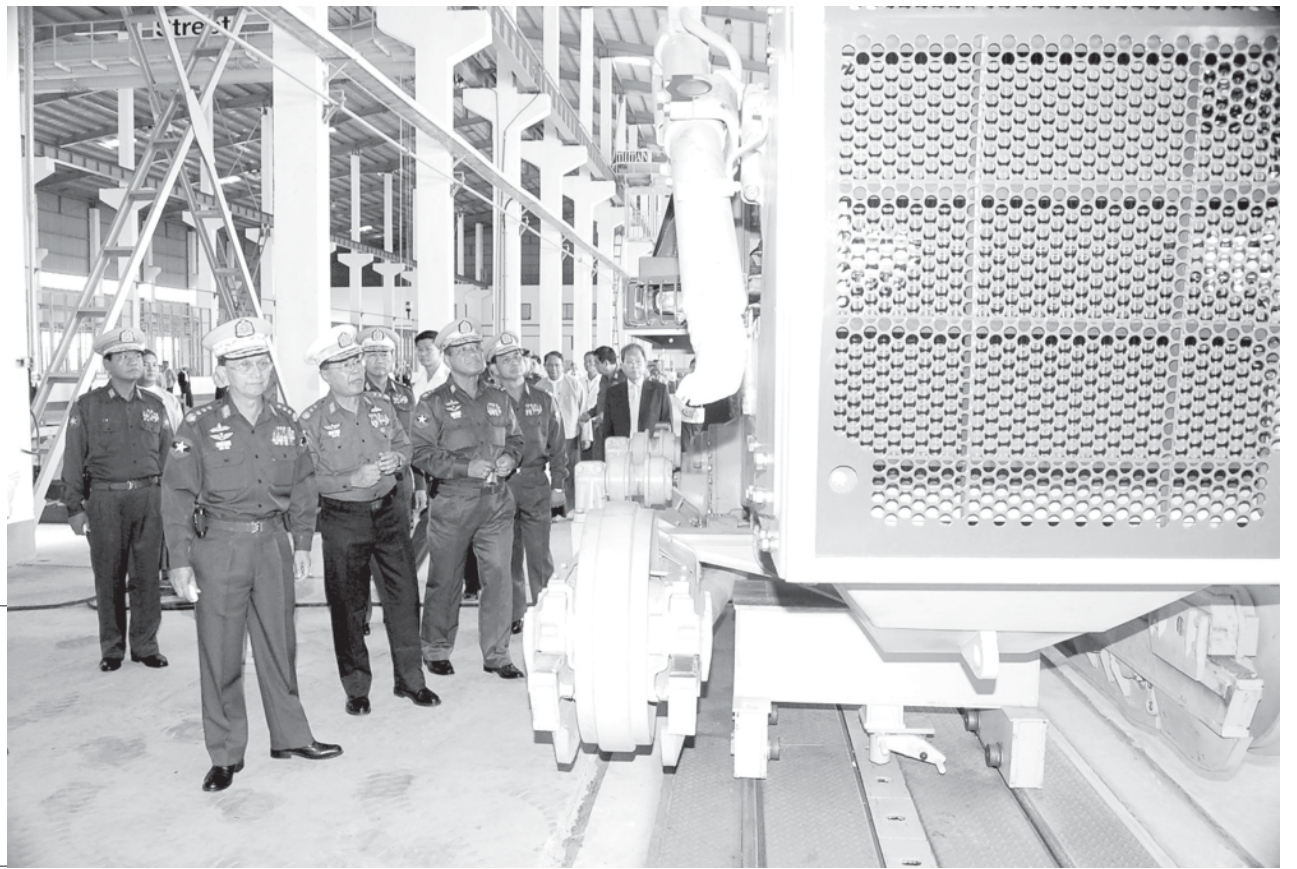
Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein presented gifts in commemoration of the opening of the factory to the Prime Minister. Next, Vice-Chairman of the Board General Manager Mr Zhang Xiu Wen of Shantui Construction Machinery Co Ltd of the People's Republic of

China also presented gifts to the Prime Minister.

The bulldozer and excavator factory (Thagara) will manufacture 100 SD 22-M bulldozers with 220 horsepower engine and 200 SC 220.7 M excavators with 169 horsepower engine annually.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits Bulldozer and Excavator Factory in Thagara.

MNA



Tagun Dam in Seikphyu Township inaugurated

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept — Tagun Dam near Thabyay Village in Seikphyu Township, Pakokku District, was inaugurated today.

As part of a plan to construct 71 irrigation facilities in Pakokku District, so far 32 dams and reservoirs including Tagun Dam have been constructed in Pakokku District and 5,172 more acres will be cultivated in the region, said Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe in his opening speech at the ceremony to inaugurate the dam. In accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, the dam was constructed to supply water to greening projects

and to the farmland for food sufficiency in the Division, he said. He also called on local people to maintain the irrigation facilities which have underpinned the economy of the region.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint said Tagun Dam is the 41st irrigation facility in the region and was constructed to help boost agricultural production, to irrigate greening projects, to increase the number of acres of rain-fed paddy, summer paddy, mix-cropping and to improve the living standard of local people.

Dams, lakes and reservoirs have been constructed in Magway Division to store rain water as the average rainfall in

Magway Division is only about 20 inches. Tagun Dam is a part of Pakokku District greening project and 215th dam project of the State.

As Tagun Dam is inaugurated, the number of cultivation areas in Thabyay Village in

Seikphyu Township would increase from 170 acres to 250 acres.

Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint unveiled the signboard of the dam and formally opened the dam.

The dam was constructed on Chaung-she Creek near Thabyay Village, and the embankment of the dam is 41 ft high and 2,000 ft long. It can store 1,000 acre ft and will irrigate 150 acres of paddy and other crops. —MNA

Computer network and server management technology course still in progress

YANGON, 30 Sept— The computer network and server management technology course is being opened at M3 Wi of Myanmar Info Tech.

To make out basic networking, lectures on salient points of networking devices and TCP/IP, installation of

Microsoft Window Server 2003, sharing in network, maintenance and domain server will be given to the trainees.

To create Intranet well and send e-mail, lectures will be given to trainees by means of Microsoft Exchange server. The trainees will have to learn

sharing of internet connection by the use of Microsoft ISA server, and creation of database, maintenance and backup.

Those wishing to attend the course may contact Myanmar Info Tech, Hline University campus (Tel- 652258, 652288 and 652320).—MNA



Band Troupe and dance troupes perform at opening ceremony of Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Thagara). — MNA

Powerful countries should refrain from practicing hegemonic policies

FM delivers a speech at UNGA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept – *Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win attended the General Debate of the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. He delivered a speech on general policy on 29 September. The following is the full text of his speech.*

Mr President,

I would like to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 63rd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The Myanmar delegation is confident that your vast experience and diplomatic skills will stand the Assembly in good stead.

Sanctions are unwarranted. Unilateral sanctions are also against international law. They are not only unfair but immoral. They are counter-productive and deprive the countries of their rights to development.

I would also like to pay tribute to your predecessor, His Excellency Dr Srgjan Kerim for his dynamic and able leadership of the previous session.

Mr President,

We live in an era when the world is becoming increasingly interdependent. Nothing illustrates this interdependency more than the Asian financial crisis of a decade ago and the current financial crisis gripping the world's largest economy. The problems may have local roots but given the severity of the situation, their efforts will transcend borders. The world economy, and by extension the stability of nations, depends on stability of the financial markets.

In recent months, the world has also been challenged by the soaring prices of fuel and food, particularly such staples as rice. These daunting challenges add an extra burden to developing countries. The an-

Talks on Global Career Prospects in Construction Management 1-2 Nov

YANGON, 30 Sept – AT&S Co Ltd will organize talks on subjects of Construction Management Technology and Global Career Prospects at Traders Hotel, here, on 1-2 November.

Professor Dr Michael Mak of Construction and Built Environment Department of University of Newcastle will give talks on Global Career Prospects in Construction Management Industry.

Students who are majoring in Civil and Architecture at Government Technological Colleges and Technological Universities can attend the talks. Those wishing to attend the talks are to enroll in advance and may contact Myanmar Info-Tech, Room 4, Building 5 (Ph: 652258, 652288, 652320). — MNA

swer to these problems lies not in multiplying the number of the world summits and conference but by concrete actions in implementing the commitments made.

My own country has the potential to contribute to energy and food security of our region. We are willing to do our part. We are making concerted efforts to produce more crude oil and natural gas to meet the needs of the domestic markets as well as for export. We also have huge potential for hydro-electric power. Moreover, as the agriculture sector is the mainstay of Myanmar's economy, we are focusing on expanding the cultivation of paddy, beans and pulses. We have also introduced new industrial crops, such as jatropha (physic nut) for use in the production of bio-fuel.

Developing countries, like my own needs to have a level playing field in order to promote economic prosperity and social progress of our peoples. Subsidies and protectionist policies distort markets and do great harm to developing countries.

Mr President,

Political and social progress can only be achieved through development, never through coercive economic measures. Such measures only serve to worsen the plight of the people, particularly the most vulnerable among them, women and children.

Unilateral sanctions have been imposed on my country. These sanctions are unwarranted. Unilateral sanctions are also against international law. They are not only unfair but immoral. They are counter-productive and deprive the countries of their rights to development.

Myanmar has abundant land and natural resources to be able to make a meaningful contribution to energy and food security of our country and beyond. In order for us to fulfill our potential we need unfettered access to markets. We need modern technology. We need investment. The sooner the unjust sanctions are revoked and the barriers removed the sooner will the country be in a position to become the rice bowl of the region and a reliable source of energy.

Mr President,

This brings me to the matter of making the United Nations an organization better suited to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Only a more democratic organization will be able to respond to the needs of Member States and serve the interest of the international community as a whole. The reform of the Organization, particularly the reform of the Security Council, has been on our agenda for some time. Progress, however, has been extremely slow.

The role and authority of the General Assembly as the principal deliberative and representative organ must be enhanced, including in the maintenance of international peace and security.



Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint presents prize to an outstanding student. — MNA

Yangon Division USDA holds annual general meeting

YANGON, 30 Sept—Annual General Meeting 2008 of Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association took place at its office in Bahan Township here this morning.

Member of the Panel of Patrons of USDA (Central) Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and USDA CEC Member (In-charge of Yangon Division USDA) U Aung Thein Lin delivered addresses at the meeting.

Yangon Division USDA Secretary U Aye Myint presented certificates of honour to the social organizations and members who participated in community welfare services and reconstruction tasks in storm-hit areas.

Well-wishers presented a light truck and cash to Yangon Division USDA through CEC Member U Maung Pa, Daw Kyin Myaing and Yangon Division USDA Joint-Secretary U Tha Win.

It was followed by the second section of meeting.—MNA

The reform of the Security Council has eluded us for over a decade. Myanmar believes that the membership of the Security Council should reflect the current reality. We believe in the increase in the membership of both the permanent and the elected categories in the Council. The reform should not be confined only to the increase in membership but must also improve its working methods. Above all, it should result in a Security Council that is transparent, credible and democratic.

Here, I would like to stress that attempts to initiate formal of informal discussions in the Security Council on situations that do not constitute a threat to international peace and security are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Charter. This is a view that Myanmar shares with the Non-Aligned Movement which constitutes a clear majority of the Membership of our Organization.

(See page 11)

For its part, Myanmar is striving to promote better living standards for its people. The implementation of MDGs is inextricably linked with the implementation of our National Development Plan.

Powerful countries should refrain...

(from page 10)

Mr President,

The Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 are imperatives that the international community has set for itself. We have now passed the mid-point but progress has been uneven. Much more remains to be done if the goals are to be achieved by 2015. While national governments have the primary responsibility to ensure progress, the international community must help by creating an environment that would enable developing countries to turn faltering steps at development into firm strides.

It is time for commitments made at international summits and conferences to be translated into concrete action. Fulfillment of the ODA commitments, increased investment flows, market access and resolution of the debt problem are needed to enable the developing countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

For its part, Myanmar is striving to promote better living standards for its people. The implementation of MDGs is inextricably linked with the implementation of our National Development Plan. The national plan focuses on the promotion of equitable and balanced socio-economic development of both rural and urban areas. In recent years, we have made significant progress in areas, such as poverty alleviation, promotion of health and education.

In the health sector, Myanmar has been implementing a national plan that accords priority to eradication of major diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. A high-level multi-sectoral Committee on AIDS has been overseeing HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities in the country since 1989. The activities undertaken by the Committee include active surveillance, prevention of mother-to-child transmission as well as community, institution and home-based care services. These activities are carried out by the Government in close cooperation with international organizations such as WHO, UNICEF, the World Food Programme, and national and international NGOs in order to reach out widely to vulnerable groups.

As a result, Myanmar has not only leveled the rate of HIV/AIDS infection but also reduced it. I would like to emphasize that if we are to have a more dynamic and effective global response to HIV/AIDS,

adequate resources must be made available. Moreover, allocation of resources for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis must be on need basis rather than on political consideration.

Mr President,

With regard to education, we envision a system for our people that will generate a learning society capable of meeting the challenges of the information age we live in. Long-term investment in the education sector is being made with the aim of building human resource development. The Government has been expanding the number of basic, primary, post-primary, middle and high schools throughout the country providing access to education for all. We strongly believe good education to be a fundamental requirement for attainment of sustainable development. It is a prerequisite for the achievement of other MDGs.

I am happy to be able to say that as a result of our efforts, the literacy rate, of 15-year-olds and above, has risen to 94.8%. Likewise, the enrollment rate in primary schools has reached 98%.

Mr President,

Myanmar also accords priority to creating job opportunities in rural areas as part of its poverty alleviation strategy. In this regard, development projects to improve economic, educational and health conditions for rural areas are being implemented all over the country.

Mr President,

The Secretary-General's initiative to convene a Ministerial meeting on "Reducing Disaster Risks in a Changing Climate" is indeed timely. We in Myanmar can relate to the growing concern of the world regarding climate change and its adverse effects. We felt the full brunt of the devastating consequences of climate change last May when a powerful cyclone slammed into the Ayeyawady delta. Cyclone Nargis left unprecedented death and destruction in its wake. The pain and sorrow felt by the survivors of the devastating storm continue even today. There is however a silver lining in the dark clouds. The Myanmar nation was united in its response to the emergency. The outpouring of generosity was overwhelming. People from all walks of life, regardless of their own difficulties, donated cash and kind to the victims. The United Nations, the ASEAN Member States, donor countries, NGOs and individuals from around the world also responded generously. We have

been able to demonstrate willingness and ability to work in concert with the international community. We have been able to rebuild better and stronger homes, schools and monasteries. The paddy fields destroyed by the storm have been replanted.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation to our friends, from far and near, who came to our assistance in our time of need.

An international pledging conference was organized in Yangon by the Government, the United Nations and ASEAN soon after the natural disaster. Following the conference, a tripartite core group composed of the Government of Myanmar, the United Nations and ASEAN was established to coordinate relief efforts and to conduct a post-cyclone joint assessment. The Group has come up with a report that describes at length the extent of the destruction caused by the storm, its impact on the affected region and the scope and scale of the humanitarian assistance that would be needed in the medium and long term. The report acknowledges the prompt and systematic response of the Government and people of Myanmar to the disaster. The effective cooperation between the Government and international organizations and NGOs is widely regarded as a model for effective cooperation in case of natural disasters.

Mr President,

Myanmar is home to over 100 national races and national unity is of paramount importance. Accordingly, we have been resolutely pursuing a policy of national reconciliation. Our endeavours have resulted in the return to the legal fold of 17 armed groups. We have effectively put an end to the decades-long insurgency. Peace and stability now prevails in almost all parts of the country.

We have also been implementing a 7-step political roadmap to democracy. The representatives of former armed groups together with the representatives of political parties, ethnic nationalities and other representatives took an active part in the National Convention process. The National Convention laid down the fundamental principles to be enshrined in a new Constitution. Based on those principles, a new Constitution was drafted and put to a nation-wide referendum last May. The people of Myanmar overwhelmingly approved the draft Constitution.

The 5th step of the roadmap, general elections, will be held in 2010. Necessary measures are being undertaken for elections. All citizens, regardless of political affiliation, will have equal rights to form political parties and to conduct election campaigns.

The Government will make every effort to ensure that the elections will be free and fair.

The international community can best assist Myanmar's democratization process by respecting the will of its people expressed in the recent referendum.

Mr President,

The daunting challenges of the 21st century could only be addressed through international cooperation. We can only solve the international problems of economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character by working together. To do this, powerful countries should refrain from practicing hegemonic policies, either through political or economic pressures.

In the global village that we live, mutual respect, understanding and tolerance must be the values that we espouse. As we face environmental issues including the climate change that wrought great devastation to peoples in various regions around the world, we need a united response to overcome them. Let us work together to give our global village a peaceful and prosperous future.

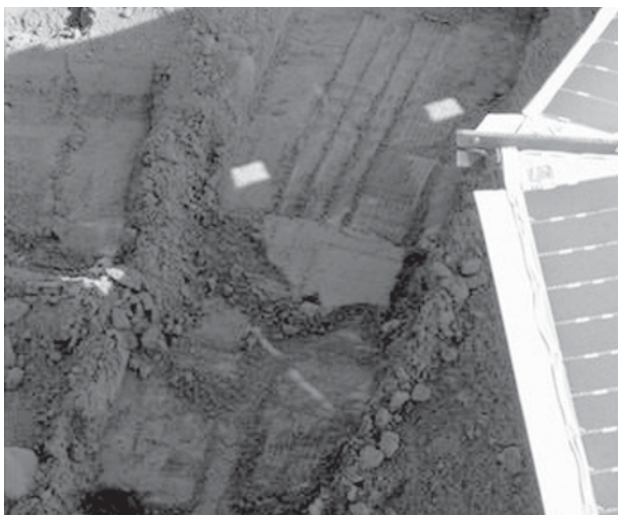
I thank you. —MNA

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Mars lander finds minerals suggesting past water

LOS ANGELES, 30 Sept—NASA's *Phoenix* spacecraft has discovered evidence of past water at its Martian landing site and spotted falling snow for the first time, scientists reported Monday. Soil experiments revealed the presence of two minerals known to be formed in liquid water. Scientists identified the minerals as calcium carbonate, found in limestone and chalk, and sheet silicate.

But exactly how that happened remains a mystery. "It's really kind of all up in the air," said William Boynton, a mission scientist at the University of Arizona at Tucson. A laser aboard the *Phoenix* recently detected snow falling from clouds more than two miles above its home in the northern arctic plains. The snow disappeared before reaching the ground.—*Internet*



This photo released by NASA shows the edge of a solar panel on NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander, right, in a trench on the surface of Mars, where a sample of soil was taken by the lander.—INTERNET

7,500 Mexicans evacuate; flooding shuts oil wells



People stand on the rooftop of a home in a flooded area near the city of Minatitlan, on the Gulf state of Veracruz, Mexico on 29 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

MEXICO CITY, 30 Sept—Mexican officials have evacuated 7,500 people and are keeping oil wells shut in Veracruz due to severe flooding from heavy rains along Mexico's Gulf coast.

The state's top civil protection official, Ranulfo Marquez, says large sections of the towns of Minatitlan and Hidalgotitlan are under 10 feet (3 metres) of water.

With rain-swollen rivers jumping their banks, residents have been wading through chest-high waters and floating down roads on canoes.—*Internet*

Suicide attacks kill 1,188 in Pakistan since '07

ISLAMABAD, 30 Sept—Suicide attacks have killed nearly 1,200 people in Pakistan since July 2007, most of them civilians, according to military statistics Monday that underscored the ferocity of the threat facing the US ally in the war on extremist groups.

Meanwhile, heavy fighting between Pakistani troops and insurgents in the lawless tribal regions of the country's northwest has caused some 20,000 Pakistanis to flee across the border into Afghanistan, the

United Nations said.

Nuclear-armed Pakistan has seen a surge in attacks by Islamic extremists since the July 2007 Army attack on militants holed up in Islamabad's radical Red Mosque, during which

about 100 people were killed. The most recent major suicide attack was the 20 Sept truck bombing at the Marriott Hotel in the capital, which killed at least 54 people, including three Americans.—*Internet*



A Pakistani paramilitary soldier keeps position during a military operation against militants in troubled area of Dara Adam Khail, Pakistan, on 29 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

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Dated 1 October 2008

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Class 4: "Candles"

Class 5: "Fresh mouth sprays, mouthwashes, mothballs, insecticide sprays, mosquito coils, anti-insect chalks, mosquito repellent towels, rat and mouse glue boards, sterile cotton rolls, sterile cotton buds, band aids, sanitary napkins, air freshener gels, air freshener sprays"

Class 6: "Aluminum foil, chains for pets"

Class 8: "Spoons, cutters, shaving kits, razor blades"

Class 9: "Electric power distributors"

Class 10: "Feeding bottles, bottle teats"

Class 11: "Light bulbs"

Class 12: "Sun-blinds for automobiles"

Class 16: "Toilet paper, tissue boxes, tissues, garbage bags, plastic bags, glue, books, envelopes, cash receipt forms (printed), photocopier paper, files (office requisites), pens, pencils, erasers, staples, paper-clips, adhesive tapes, faxpapers, nappies made of paper or cellulose, pads, wrapping films (plastic)"

Class 17: "Rubber gloves used for industrial purposes"

Class 18: "Dog collars, clothing for pets"

Class 20: "Hangers, straws for drinking"

Class 21: "Bowls, plates, glass, cups, ladles, spatulas, dippers, bottles for seasoning products, pots, dipping bowls, basins, plastic buckets, spoon and fork holders, water feeders, baskets, brushes for cleaning cloths, brushes, clothes racks, water sprayers, clothes pegs, mops, spare fabrics for mops, whisks, gloves for household purposes, scrubber pads, stainless steel scourers, sponges for household purposes, luffa sponges, vehicle cleaning towels, toothbrushes, dental floss, toothpicks, chopsticks, wood skewers, boxes of foam for containing food, pet utensils"

Class 22: "Nylon ropes"

Class 25: "Linen nappies, buddhist priest lower garments, buddhist priest outer robes, stockings, socks"

Class 28: "Toys for domestic pets"

Class 29: "Non-dairy cream, canned sardines in tomato sauce, palm oil, soybean oil, eggs, chicken essences, edible birds' nests, condensed milk, preserved sesame, milk, corn milk, jams, margarine, spread, preserved vegetables, preserved fruits, preserved seaweed, preserved seafood, preserved meats, canned fishes, preserved beans, preserved job's tears,

preserved cashew nuts, edible oils, fermented whole soybeans, shrimp pastes, fried garlic, fried onion, imitation crab sticks, tofu, frozen potatoes"

Class 30: "Salad dressing, fish sauce, rice, coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, sugar, sweeteners, artificial sugar, cereal preparations for breakfast, steamed custard, honey, powders used for food preparations, sago pearls, gelatin, gelatin powders, sweets, extruded snacks, snack foods, cookies, bread, candy for food, gum (chewing) not for medical purposes, jellies, Chinese black jellies, instant noodles, instant bean vermicelli, noodles, rice vermicelli, egg noodles, bean vermicelli, macaroni, spaghetti, mayonnaise, crackers, sauces (condiments), vinegar, dips, chili pastes, flavor enhancers, spices, ground chili, pepper, seasoning powders, salt, curry pastes, ice cream, ices (edible), buns, dumplings, shrimp dumpling, rice-based instant foods, noodle-based instant foods, powders for deserts"

Class 31: "Pet food, animal waste pads which can absorb odor and humidity for use by laying or putting it in a tray, a box or any container"

Class 32: "Aerated waters, strong soft drinks, mineral water, fruit juices and fruit drinks, powders for making beverages, cereal and grain drinks, isotonic drinks, non-alcoholic beverages, table waters, herbal drinks, syrups for beverages"

Class 33: "Whisky, wine"

Class 34: "Matches, lighters for smokers"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung B.Sc., R.L., D.B.L. Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
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Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box: 666
Yangon. 1st October 2008

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG DA VOYNO (8006)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOYNO (8006) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.10.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN-BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

AVENTIS PHARMA S.A., a company incorporated in France, of 20 avenue Raymond Aron 92160 ANTONY-FRANCE, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

TAXOTERE

Reg. No. 932/2000

in respect of "Pharmaceutical products".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for **AVENTIS PHARMA S.A.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 1 October 2008

Drive with care

Ozone pollution more dangerous to some

NEW YORK, 30 Sept — It's not just the elderly who vulnerable to the ill effects of air

However, while age was the strongest risk factor, there was also evidence that older

Public Health, adds to evidence linking daily ozone increases to spikes in death rates.



The Valero St Charles oil refinery is seen during a tour of the refinery in Norco, Louisiana.
INTERNET

It also suggests that even moderately elevated levels of ozone may be hazardous for certain vulnerable people.

The difference in pollution-related death rates between the elderly and young, for example, was much greater in cities that typically had relatively low ozone levels than in cities with generally high ozone concentrations.

Ground-level ozone forms when sunlight reacts with pollutants from cars, factories and other sources, and is the main component of smog. Ozone levels are typically highest in the summer.

Internet

pollution, new research suggests.

In a study of 2.7 million deaths across 48 US cities, researchers found that death rates tended to rise on days when ozone pollution increased — with the older adults being most at risk.

women were more vulnerable to ozone pollution than older men were, and blacks were more vulnerable than other racial groups.

The study, conducted by Mercedes Medina-Ramon and Joel Schwartz of the Harvard School of

Study suggests how cancers spread to lungs

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Sept — Cancers typically spread — or metastasize — to specific, predictable locations. Now researchers have a deeper molecular understanding of why, at least for lung metastases in mice.

The finding might someday lead to drug therapies that curb lung cancer metastasis in humans, experts say. Dr Yoshiro Maru of the Tokyo Women's Medical University and colleagues report that primary tumours transmit a series of signals throughout the body to "prepare the soil" in the lungs to accept the "seed" of a metastatic cell from solid tumours located elsewhere.

The key players in this process are signaling proteins, which pass back and forth like text messages between the tumour and the premetastatic lung, and then from the premetastatic lung to the tumour and the bone marrow.

"I think the important part of the paper is that it's putting molecules on these pathways between different cells ... and between the primary tumour and the soil," said Mikala Egeblad, an assistant research anatomist at the University of California, San Francisco.—Internet



Cannon balls found on a 500-year-old Portuguese shipwreck off Namibia's rough southern coast. Archaeologists are racing against the little time left to salvage a fortune in coins and items from the vessel.—INTERNET

A koala rests in a tree at Sydney Wildlife World recently. The Australian Koala Foundation is celebrating "Save the Koala" day on 26 Sept in an attempt to raise funds to save the koala's environment.
INTERNET

A child undergoes a medical check for possible kidney stones at a hospital in Shanghai on 27 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

Trouble on Hubble delays last shuttle service mission

WASHINGTON, 30 Sept — NASA has delayed the final service mission of the Atlantis space shuttle to the Hubble space telescope, probably until early 2009, after a "significant anomaly" occurred on the orbiting telescope.

"It's obvious that 14 October is off the table" for launching Atlantis, John Burch, the shuttle programme manager at NASA's space centre in Houston, Texas, told a telephone news conference. The most likely new launch date for the mission to Hubble would be in February next year, the officials said. On Saturday, Science Data Formatter side A, the unit on Hubble that took data from five instruments, formatted it and sent it back to the ground, providing NASA with spectacular images of space, "totally failed," Preston Burch, Hubble manager at Goddard space flight centre near Washington said.

NASA was working to get Hubble back up and "doing science" in a matter of days by reconfiguring a unit on Hubble that has laid dormant during the 18 years that the telescope has been in orbit, to do the work of the failed unit.



In this image released by NASA, the space shuttle Atlantis stands on pad 39A (bottom) and space shuttle Endeavour stands on pad 39B on 20 Sept, 2008.—INTERNET

But that would require some complex manoeuvres and would only be a stop-gap measure, the scientists said.—Internet

Heart patients should be screened for depression

DALLAS, 30 Sept — Heart patients should be regularly screened for signs of depression, the American Heart Association recommended Monday.

Depression is about three times more common in heart attack survivors and those hospitalized with heart problems than the general population, according to the recommendations published in the journal *Circulation*. The authors said only about half of heart doctors say they treat depression in their patients — and not all those diagnosed with depression are treated.

"I think we could reduce considerable suffering and improve outcomes," by screening, said Erika Froelicher, professor of nursing at the University of California, San Francisco. "I know we can do more." While there's no direct evidence that heart patients who are screened fare better, depression can result in poorer outcomes and a poorer quality of life, the panel said. Depressed patients may skip their medications, not change their diet or exercise or take part in rehabilitation programmes, they said.

Internet

China detains 22 suspects over tainted milk

BEIJING, 30 Sept — Police in the Chinese province at the centre of a scandal over tainted milk powder have detained 22 people suspected of involvement in introducing the chemical melamine into the supply chain, state

media said on Tuesday.

Thousands of children have been hospitalized with kidney illnesses and four have died after drinking milk formula tainted with the chemical, causing public outrage and shining the spotlight back on safety issues in the country's food industry after a series of earlier problems with other products.

Authorities in northern Hebei province held the people after raids on dozens of dairy farms and milk purchasing stations during which they seized more than 220 kg (485 pounds) of the cheap industrial chemical, the *China Daily* said.—Internet



SPORTS

English football clubs look to maintain victorious start, French to bounce back



Chelsea's match goal scorer Jose Bosingwa. Both Chelsea and Liverpool will be looking to notch up their second successive Champions League victory when they play surprise Romanian package Cluj and PSV Eindhoven respectively on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Chelsea outclassed French side Bordeaux in their first match of the campaign a fortnight ago but may find Cluj a tougher proposition after they pulled off a stunning victory over AS Roma in their debut in the competition.

Liverpool started with a hardfought 2-1 away win over Bordeaux' French rivals Marseille and have a good recent record over PSV while the Dutch side's coach Huub Stevens has never won either as a player or coach in England.

Marseille will travel with some trepidation to Madrid to take on dark horses Atletico Madrid.—INTERNET

Date knocked out of Japan Open tennis

TOKYO, 30 Sept — Former world number four Kimiko Date's comeback trial ended in a first-round 6-3, 6-1 loss to Shahar Peer on Tuesday in her first appearance in a main draw in 12 years at the Japan Open tennis tournament. The 228th-ranked Japanese, who has won three ITF titles since her comeback in April, struggled to keep her service games, losing 6-3, 6-1 to the sixth-seeded Israeli in 69 minutes. It was Date's second attempt at returning to the WTA Tour. Her first ended in the qualifying round two weeks ago at the Pan Pacific Open here, and she received a wild card for the 175,000-dollar event this week.—INTERNET



Former world number four Kimiko Date's, seen here, comeback trial ended in a first-round 6-3, 6-1 loss to Shahar Peer on Tuesday in her first appearance in a main draw in 12 years at the Japan Open tennis tournament.—INTERNET

Giuly ruled out for up to three weeks

PARIS, 30 Sept — Former France international midfielder Ludovic Giuly is expected to be out for around three weeks because of a left thigh injury, his club Paris Saint Germain announced on Monday.

The 32-year-old former Barcelona and AS Roma playmaker suffered the injury in the second-half of Saturday's 1-0 defeat by newly promoted Grenoble.

Internet

Man Utd take Danish minnows seriously

AALBORG, 30 Sept — Sir Alex Ferguson has vowed to take Champions League minnows Aalborg seriously in Tuesday's Group E clash in Denmark after admitting he is still scarred by the memories of Manchester United's embarrassment in Copenhagen two years ago.

European champions United launched the defence of their title with a disappointing 0-0 draw against Villarreal at Old Trafford two weeks ago and must claim three points in the Energi Nord Arena to put their campaign back on track.

But after crashing to a shock 1-0 defeat against FC Copenhagen after



Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson

fielding an under-strength team in November 2006, United boss Ferguson admits that he will not take any risks against Bruce Rioch's Danish champions.

"I made a mistake when I picked my team in Copenhagen a couple of years ago when we appeared comfortable in the group, but we lost and ended up scrapping to qualify," said Ferguson.

Internet

Styles apologises to Bolton for Ronaldo penalty blunder



Referee Rob Styles, seen here in August 2008, has apologised to Bolton for the penalty decision that condemned Gary Megson's side to a 2-0 defeat against Manchester United.—INTERNET

Match Official Board (PGMO) told the BBC that Styles spoke to Bolton on Monday to apologise, even though Megson had insisted after the game that he didn't want to hear from the official.

It is unknown in what manner Styles contacted the club or who he got in touch with, but it is not the first time Styles has made an apology for a mistake on the field - last season he apologised to Liverpool for a penalty error when Steve Finnan challenged Chelsea's Florent Malouda.

Internet

Former France international midfielder Ludovic Giuly, seen here on 27 Sept, 2008, is expected to be out for around three weeks because of a left thigh injury, his club Paris Saint Germain announced on Monday.—INTERNET



Wales welcome back Bellamy for World Cup qualifiers

CARDIFF, 30 Sept — Wales manager John Toshack has recalled Craig Bellamy and James Collins for October's World Cup qualifiers against Liechtenstein and Germany.

Toshack welcomes back captain Bellamy and defenders Collins and Lewin Nyatanga after long-term injuries.

West Ham striker Bellamy has made two short substitute appearances after groin surgery, while club-mate Collins has yet to figure for the first team this season after a knee operation, but both are key figures for Toshack.

Nyatanga has been an unused substitute in Derby's last three matches against QPR, Cardiff and Sheffield United after an ankle problem.

Midfielder David Vaughan is also recalled, having ended his unhappy spell with Real Sociedad with a move to Blackpool.

Nottingham Forest's Arron Davies and Middlesbrough's Rhys Williams are both out through injury, while Wrexham defender Steve Evans has been omitted now Collins and Nyatanga are available.

Internet

Wales forward Craig Bellamy (front) runs past Cyprus defender Georgios Theodotou during their Euro 2008 qualifier in 2006. Wales manager John Toshack has recalled Bellamy and James Collins for October's World Cup qualifiers against Liechtenstein and Germany.—INTERNET



Resurgent Safina's generous pledge



Dinara Safina of Russia, seen here on 20 Sept, 2008, vowed on Monday to hand over the prize of a brand-new Porsche sports car to her coach if she wins this week's WTA event in Stuttgart.—INTERNET

The world number three has had a good summer and is hoping to win her fifth title of the year having started her run by taking the Berlin Open title in May.

If she wins Sunday's final here, Safina says she will reward her Croatian coach Zeljko Krajan for his faith in her by handing over the keys to her prize of a brand-new Porsche 911 Carrera 4S Cabrio - worth 98,500 US dollars.

"Winning the Berlin Open in May was really the key to my tennis life," said the 22-year-old.

"I felt completely lost before that tournament. "My performances on court were a disaster and I was on the verge of calling it quits.

"It is only due to my coach that I am still here.

Internet

Iran to continue uranium enrichment

TEHERAN, 30 Sept— Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hassan Qashqavi said on Monday that Iran will continue uranium enrichment, the official IRNA news agency reported.

It is Iran's "right" to produce nuclear energy for civilian utility, Qashqavi was quoted as saying at his weekly Press briefing. The United Nations Resolution 1835 is a political statement and unjustified, Qashqavi said, added that "no Security Council

resolution is required as long as Iranian nuclear programme poses no threat".

The UN Security Council unanimously adopted the resolution on Saturday to reaffirm its previous resolutions on Iran and demand full compliance from the Islamic Republic.

He pointed out that Western governments and six major countries should make it clear what they have done for confidence building with Iran.

Six major countries — the United States, Britain, China, France, Russia, Britain and Germany — agreed on the text of the resolution on Friday in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly's annual debate.

Resolution 1835 reaffirmed its previous resolutions on Iran since July 2006 but contained no new sanctions. It called on Iran "to comply fully and without delay with its obligations" under the resolutions, and to meet the requirements of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors.

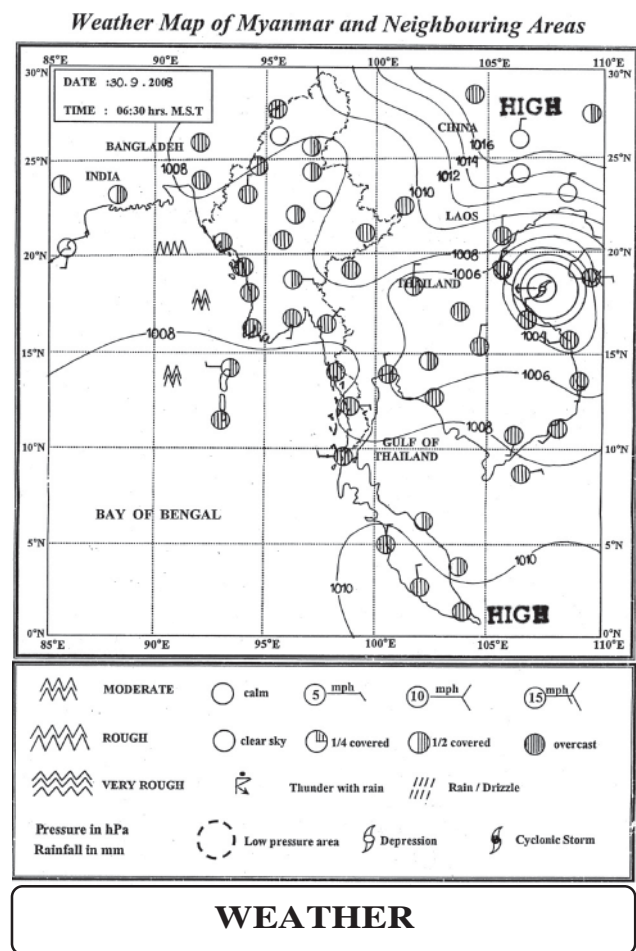
According to an IAEA report recently released, due to Teheran's block, the UN nuclear watchdog had been unable to make much progress in investigating Iran's suspect nuclear programme. — MNA/Xinhua

52nd IAEA General Conference opens

VIENNA, 30 Sept— The 52nd International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference opened in Vienna, Austria, Monday, with the future role and development of the organization as its central theme.

Director of Chinese Atomic Energy Agency Chen Qiufa attended the conference as head of the Chinese delegation. In his speech in the general debate Monday, Chen stated the Chinese Government's position on promoting the peaceful development of nuclear energy.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 30 September, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin States, Sagaing, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin and Mon States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division and fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Namhsan (0.78) inch, Taunggyi (0.63) inch, Mogok (0.28) inch and Thayawady (0.27) inch.

Maximum temperature on 29-9-2008 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 30-9-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-9-2008 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 29-9-2008 was (5.6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 30-9-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (96.38) inches at Mingaladon, (108.42) inches at Kaba-Aye and (125.98) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (09:30) hours MST on 30-9-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to the observation at (09:30) hrs MST today, the tropical cyclone 'MEKKHALA' over south China Sea is centred at about (250) miles South-Southeast of 'Hanoi' (Vietnam). It is forecast to move North-Northwest direction.

Forecast valid until evening of 1-10-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin, Mon, Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan and Kayin States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-10-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-10-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Military personnel inspect a stationary van wreckage after a bomb explosion in Colombo, capital of Sri Lanka, on 29 Sept, 2008. At least three civilians were injured in an explosion happened in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo, the military said on Monday. —INTERNET

Bomb found in shopping centre area in Palu, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 30 Sept—A low explosive bomb was found in a shopping centre area in Palu of Indonesia's Central Sulawesi Province on Tuesday, ahead of the Muslim festival of Eid al-Fitri, local police said.

The hand-made bomb covered with a plastic bag was found after midnight on a side of Jalan Danau Poso street in Palu, provincial police spokesman Irfaizal Nasution said. "It was a low explosive bomb," he told Xinhua on telephone from the province.

MNA/Xinhua



Wednesday, 1 October
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:20 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Musical programme
- 7:45 am
- 5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 7:55 am
- 6. Classical song
- 8:10 am
- 7. Dance of national races
- 8:20 am
- 8. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ် (၁၆) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. "ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာသန့်ရှင်းသောအစာ" (ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ပွင့်၊ ဝမ်းပုံကြီး၊ ဟံစီးဖြိုး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုးထွန်း)
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song

- 4:10 pm
- 2. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 4:25 pm
- 3. Musical programme
- 4:40 pm
- 4. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:50 pm
- 5. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာသက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများနေ့တေးများ
- 5:00 pm
- 6. ရွှေယံစုံလင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်
- 5:05 pm
- 7. ၂၀၀၈ခုနှစ် (၁၆) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)
- 5:30 pm
- 8. ရသပေါ်လွင်သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

- 6:00 pm
- 9. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 10. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 11. မြန်မာ့လေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ
- 6:55 pm
- 12. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင်အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်
- 7:15 pm
- 13. ဆိုလိုက်ကြစို့
- 7:40 pm
- 14. မြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓ၏ မဟာဗုဒ္ဓဝင်
- 8:00 pm
- 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ (ရုပ်သေးပြိုင်ပွဲ) (ပထမဆု) "မဟာဒုတိယတော်တော်ကြီးပြိုင်ပွဲ"(ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း)

Model Hsin Yadana strain paddy field designed to help double farmers' incomes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin inspected the 30-acre model monsoon paddy plot of the local regiment at Pinlaung junction here this morning.

Col Khin Maung Oo of the regiment gave an account of the purpose of the model field of Hsin Yadana paddy, whose per acre yield is more than 200 baskets. Agriculturalist U Myint Maung Htwe reported on the per acre yield of the paddy field.

The commander

viewed the model field, and thriving Hsin Yadana strain paddy fields of farmers U Mya Thein and U Bo Nyunt.

In his report, Col Khin Maung Oo said that the model plot was designed to help improve the economic growth and living standard of local farmers by inspiring them to choose Hsin Yadana paddy strain, with which they could double their paddy output and incomes. He added that seeds of high-yield paddy strain and agricultural methods would be distributed to

interested local farmers.

Agriculturalist U Myint Maung Htwe reported on the 10 scientific cultivation methods, through which paddy output would reach more than 200 baskets; Manager of the District Myanma Agricultural Service U Hmat Gyi, on calculating method of per acre yield; and Agriculturalist U Han Win Htut, on advantages of choosing the paddy strain.

The commander called for extensive cultivation of Hsin Yadana strain paddy in the regi-

ments and units of Nay Pyi Taw Station and Nay Pyi Taw Command.

The commander observed the broadcasting of

paddy seeds, and ploughing process, and paddy fields of Paw Hsan Hmwe, Barsamardi and Hsin Yadana (Nay Pyi Taw).

The per acre yield of Hsin Yadana fields is ex-

pected to be over 200 baskets. The fields were put under Hsin Yadana strain paddy on 10 July and they are due to be harvested in the third week of October.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin visits a model paddy field in Pinlaung Junction in Nay Pyi Taw.

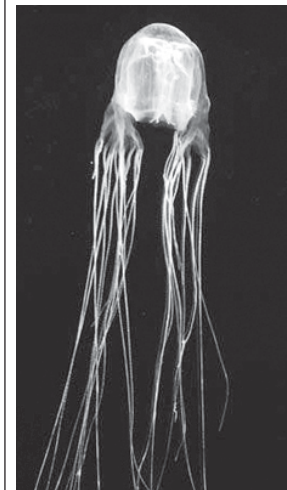
MNA

Public chosen road

- * Holding evil view
Plotting to betray nation
- * On the wrong road
Longing for aliens
- * Although born in nation
Never having trust in internal strength
Wishing to rely on aliens
- * Try never to play tricks
With lies and deceit
For people know the truth
People implementing with honour
The already chosen
Seven-step Road Map
People with patriotism
Building new golden land

May La Min (Aungban) Trs

How Jellyfish got its sting



Jellyfish may owe thanks to a humble bacterium for their ability to sting prey. Scientists have found that one of the genes necessary for them to sting is similar to a gene in bacteria, suggesting the ancestors of jelly-

fish picked up the gene from microbes. The research is published this week in Current Biology.

“The result was a great surprise,” says developmental biologist Nicolas Rabet of the Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris, France, who led the team. “[This kind of] horizontal gene transfer is often neglected, and could sometimes be more important than we thought.” Unlike vertical gene transfer from parent to offspring, the horizontal variety happens between organisms, or even between different species.—Internet



Photo shows thriving paddy field of a local battalion in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA